



Southeast News

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Antoinette Brown Award To Highlight Synod

This month, during General Synod 13 in Rochester, N.Y., two women clergy will be honored with the Antoinette Brown Award. First awarded at General Synod 10, the Antoinette Brown Award every two years honors two outstanding women whose ministries exemplify the contributions that women can make through leadership in their profession.

Antoinette Brown, after whom the award was named, was the first ordained woman minister in America. She was 28 years old at the time of her ordination in the Congregational Church of South Butler, N.Y., in 1853.

Rev. Brown attended Oberlin College, where she was a classmate of the well-known suffragist Lucy Stone. Rev. Brown continued to preach after her marriage, and in 1902 she delivered the funeral oration of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, at whose home the first Woman's Rights convention had been held in 1848.

In 1908, Oberlin College conferred upon Rev. Brown the Doctor of Divinity degree. She preached her last sermon six years later, at age 90!

Aids Published to Assess Public Schools

In an effort to awaken people to the vital role of public education in American life, Pilgrim Press is publishing eight booklets that raise "substantive issues" about the public schools and provide means for thinking about their problems.

Entitled "The Education of the Public and the Public School," the series explains basic American principles for educating the public, discusses the multiple educational forces in American life, such as school, church, family, the media, and focuses on the public school as one of these forces.

The monographs discuss public schools

Cont'd. on Page 3

Atlanta's Children

How can such things be? I ask.
Why? Why, oh God must children die by
cursed hands of perverted men?
Why, dear God, the children?
The deed is done for twenty-one and more!
Still more, by policemen's score!
When will it end for the children plucked
from holes under bush and tree?
How can such things be?

John H. Jones
First Congregational UCC
Montgomery, Alabama

UCC Survey Revealing

More than 60 percent of the persons who attend worship services of the United Church of Christ are women, nearly a third over the age of 60 and almost half have at least some college education.

These findings emerged from a three-year church membership inventory conducted by the Board for Homeland Ministries of the United Church of Christ. The survey was based on questionnaires completed by some 92,800 churchgoers in 1,200 congregations located in 12 of the denomination's conferences.

Of the many findings revealed by the study, the following have the greatest implications for church mission and evangelism:

—Of the women polled, only 12 percent described themselves as professionals while 42 percent listed themselves as homemakers.

—While women outnumber men in all categories, the absence of male worshippers was especially pronounced among those 20-40 and over 60.

—The number of UCC worshippers decreases proportionally with lowered age. Although 40 percent of the nation's over-15 population is 20-39, fewer than one-quarter of the churchgoers surveyed are in this age group.

—UCC churchgoers have an educational level considerably higher than that of the country as a whole, with 47 percent having completed two years of college or more.

—Almost 45 percent of those polled are either homemakers or retired. Among the others, 19 percent are professionals, 18

Cont'd. on Page 2

Interfaith Hunger Appeal Underway

You may soon see a series of advertisements in buses, subways, trains, newspapers and magazines, and on television and radio "spots," calling attention to the theme: "You are the Hope of the Hungry." This theme is featured this year as part of the ongoing, interfaith hunger appeal of Catholic Relief Services, the Joint Jewish Distribution Committee, and Church World Service.

The new advertising campaign will reach people not otherwise related to the church. All proceeds will be divided equally between the three sponsoring agencies and will be used for emergency relief efforts and longrange development programs—particularly programs to increase food production.

The funds thus received by Church World Service will supplement monies already given for such purposes by members of the United Church of Christ and other Protestant churches through the annual One Great Hour of Sharing all-church offering.

Fairfield Glade Dedicates Building

Fairfield Glade Community Church, Fairfield Glade, TN, dedicated their new church building in a Service of Consecration held in the sanctuary of the new church on Sunday, May 31, 1981.

Begun in 1976 as a new church start, Fairfield Glade is jointly affiliated with the United Church of Christ and the United Presbyterian churches. Representatives from both denominations were on hand from the Alabama-Tennessee Association and the St. Andrew's Presbytery to swell attendance at the Service of Consecration to over 275.

From its inception, Fairfield Glade has been housed in three different facilities, each of which it has outgrown. Now with its own building, the church can accommodate over 300 for worship. In

Cont'd. on Page 2



Rev. Luther Kramer talking with Convocation participants.

Convocation Enjoyed

Nearly 40 ministers and spouses gathered at St. Bernard Abbey in Cullman, AL for the 1981 Southeast Conference Minister's Convocation held Monday through Wednesday, May 4-6.

In addition to relaxation and fellowship, the Convocation offered participants the excitement of a stimulating seminar taught by Rev. Luther Kramer and entitled "Clergy Marriages: Turning Stress and Anger into Wow." Rev. Kramer is Director of the Center for Creative Living and Spiritual Growth in Huntsville, AL.

On Wednesday morning, the Convocation moved to St. John's Church, UCC in Cullman where denominational as well as conference issues were aired and discussed.

Chairman of this year's Convocation was Rev. Gene Keen, Huntsville, AL.

In Just One Minute

The following is taken from the report of the Presidential Commission on World Hunger, March, 1980:

"In the next 60 seconds, 233 babies will be born—136 in Asia, 39 in Africa, 23 in Latin America, and 35 in the rest of the world. Twenty-six of these will die in their first year of life—nine in Africa, five in Latin America, one in Europe, one in North America, and ten in Asia. Thirty-four more will die before the age of 15. Of the deaths, 50 to 75 percent can be attributed to a combination of malnutrition and infectious diseases. Many who do survive beyond the age of 15 will be stunted in growth and will suffer brain damage that can incapacitate them for life."

What can your church do to minister to those in need?

Moral Majority?

In his article "The Moral Majority, Arrogance from the Right," which appeared in the June-July issue of A.D. Magazine, theologian Roger Shinn writes: "Like Historian Edward Gibbon, who said that the Holy Roman Empire was neither holy nor Roman nor an empire, I suspect that the Moral Majority is neither moral nor a majority."

"It is a phenomenon of enough weight that it must not be ignored. It is important to try to understand our own history and ourselves better...In hard times people yearn for simple answers—and they pay the price."

UCC Survey - Cont'd.

percent in other white-collar jobs, 9 percent blue-collar, 8 percent students and 2 percent farmers.

Perhaps the most surprising statistic was that only 3 percent of UCC churchgoers are divorced or separated. Seventy percent are married, 17 percent are single and 10 percent are widowed.

According to UCBHM researcher Dr. William McKinney the survey's value is in the question it raises: "How can the churches become more attractive to men and to persons in their 20's and 30's?" "With one-third of the worshippers over 60, how well does the UCC meet the needs of its older members?" "Does the church have the potential to reach out to blacks and other minority persons who are poor?"



The Minister's Convocation is enjoyed by Atlanta ministers Rev. Marvin Morgan and Rev. William Scott.

CONFERENCE CORNER

Dr. Emmett O. Floyd



The off-numbered years signal it is time to convene the General Synod of the United Church of Christ. This summer the 13th General Synod will meet in Rochester, New York. The Southeast Conference will have four delegates this year plus the Moderator and Conference Minister who serve as associate delegates (voice without vote).

Our delegates are: Rev. Henry W. Tuttle, Birmingham, and Ms. Mary Marshall, Montgomery, in the class of 1981; Mark Frey of Robbins, TN, and Marlbro Roberts of Midway, GA, in the class of 1983. Ms. Freda Brown (assuming her election as Moderator) will be the associate delegate.

Being nominated for service on national boards and agencies from the Southeast Conference are the following persons:

—Beth Greene, Huntsville, AL—Executive Council
—Sennia N. Mack, Atlanta, GA—Office of Communication
—Robert Livingston, Knoxville, TN—Board for Homeland Ministries
—Newton S. Holiday, Jr., Nashville, TN—Board for World Ministries
—W. Pressley Ingram, Birmingham, AL—Board for World Ministries
—Wilhemina Morgan, Atlanta, GA—Board for World Ministries
—Euphemia Young, Chattanooga, TN—Board for World Ministries
These persons will join Rev. James Cantrell, Savannah, GA, whose term on UCBWM runs until 1985.

Leaving this year after serving full terms are Dr. Marvin Morgan, Atlanta, GA on the Executive Council and Mr. John Bonne, Atlanta, GA, on the Office of Communication. The Conference Minister's term on the Board for World Ministries will end this year but I have been appointed to the Stewardship Council.

Let us pray for all those who serve!

Fairfield Glade - Cont'd.

addition to the sanctuary—which can also be used as a fellowship hall—the spacious building includes kitchen facilities, a lounge, choir, office and nursery space.

Rev. Walter Hall and Rev. Stephen Gray represented the Southeast Conference in the Service of Consecration.

Check Your Wires

According to a recent issue of **Church Business Report**, if your church was built or remodeled between 1965 and 1973, it's possible that the wiring used in the construction was made of aluminum.

At the time, 15 to 20 ampere aluminum wiring was thought to be a cheap and efficient alternative to copper. But it has now proved to be prone to overheating—which can cause fires.

Today, manufacturers deny any responsibility, but a government lawsuit is pending that would make them assume costs of repairs.

Here are some precautions you can take:

Check areas where electrical wiring is easily accessible to see if "Al" or "aluminum" is written on the wire's insulation. If so, the wiring is aluminum and should probably be replaced. But don't try to do it yourself—call an electrician.

More information on aluminum wiring can be obtained in a free booklet distributed by the Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, DC 20207.

Aids Published - Cont'd.

in relation to education of the public, the family, financing of public education, public policy, ethnic pluralism, moral education and education of the whole person. They are written by leading educators, social scientists, financial experts and theologians.

The booklets and a study guide range from \$1.95 to \$3.95. The complete set is: \$24.50. From Pilgrim Press, 132 W. 31 St., New York, N.Y. 10001.

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Ordination participants were (l-r): Dr. Homer C. McEwen, Dr. Channing Jeschke, Rev. Sandra Ann Mullins and Rev. Joyce B. Myers.

Sandra Mullins

Ordained

Sandra Ann Mullins was ordained to the Christian Ministry by the Georgia-South Carolina Association on Sunday, May 10, 1981 at Central Congregational Church, UCC, Atlanta, GA.

Preaching the ordination sermon was Dr. Channing Jeschke, librarian at Candler School of Theology, and Rev. William T. Scott, Jr., pastor of Central served as Liturgist. Vows were asked by Dr. Homer C. McEwen, Pastor Emeritus of First Congregational Church, Atlanta, and a member of the Committee on Church and Ministry of the Georgia-South Carolina Association. Rev. Joyce B. Myers, Southern Regional Associate, Office for Church Life and Leadership, gave the Charge to the Ordinand.

Sandye, a native of Ohio, is a 1980 graduate of Candler School of Theology. She came to Atlanta to work with the Girl's Clubs of America regional office and has been a member of Central Congregational Church, UCC, Atlanta, since 1975.

Summer Camping?

Interested in summer camping? Then plan to attend a camp or conference at the United Presbyterian Camp Ozone:

July 3-5 Adult weekend.

July 12-18 "Trail Camp for high school students; "Seeker" Camp for high school students.

July 19-25 "Explorer" Camp for junior high school students.

July 26-August 1 "Creative Arts" Conference.

For further information, write Camp Ozone, Ozone, Tennessee 37842.

AROUND THE CONFERENCE

First Congregational UCC, Chattanooga

From the Atlantic Ocean to the Mississippi River, from the Gulf of Mexico to the mountains of Tennessee, the Southeast Conference covers a broad expanse of territory. Contained within her boundaries are some 120 churches—widely diverse in heritage and religious expression—and yet united in the conviction that the churches of Jesus Christ "may all be one."

Representing those churches within the conference whose beginnings are closely related to the American Missionary Association is First Congregational Church, UCC in Chattanooga, TN.

Beginning with a Sunday School offered to blacks in the fall of 1866 by AMA missionaries from Massachusetts, a fellowship was formed, that on June 9, 1867 officially organized itself as First Congregational Church in Chattanooga.

After five years of rapid growth, the church's present property at Ninth and Lindsay was purchased. The church's present building was constructed and dedicated in 1905.

At the present time, the church is engaged in church revitalization through membership evaluation and recruitment. Ecumenical sharing with other churches and denominations is also another priority.

The church's pastor is the Rev. Andrew Frierson.

CURT'S NUGGETS

From the desk of Curtis Schumacher, Pleasant Hill, TN:

It is better to tell dollars where to go than wonder where they went.

NEWS & NOTES

Some 230 youth and adult advisors attended the Spring Rally for youth of the Southern Alabama Area. Held April 24-26 in Panama City, FL, participants enjoyed recreation at the beach, discussion groups, talent night, and the Sunday worship service.

Florida Conference is looking for ministers who are close to retirement age to serve churches there. The conference is especially interested in 61 or 62 year old clergy who would like to work in new church starts in Florida and would be willing to continue in their positions after they reach 65. Contact Charles L. Burns, Florida Conference minister, UCC, 222 E. Welbourne Ave., Winter Park, FL 32789.

A Musician's Guide To Church Music is a new publication providing invaluable advice for present and aspiring church musicians. Cost is \$16.95. Order from: The Pilgrim Press, 132 West 31 Street, NY, NY 10001.

Community Church, UCC, Pleasant Hill, TN, held a special offering on May 10 for support of Uplands Retirement Center. Total contributions were \$5,475.50!

Rev. Darryl Peebles will preach the sermon during Homecoming festivities June 7 at Langdale, AL, UCC. A special occasion, Rev. Peebles was raised in the Langdale Church and is one of a number of people the Langdale Church has sent into the Christian ministry.

Yvonne V. Delk, affirmative action officer of the UCC, was elected executive director of the denomination's Office for Church in Society at its directorate meeting this May. Dr. Delk is the first woman to head a national program agency of the UCC and one of the first women to hold such a position in any major Protestant denomination.

The Southern Conference is looking for candidates for Conference Minister. Ordination and UCC ministerial standing are required. An affirmative action policy will be followed. Salary is negotiable. Deadline for applying is October 1. For form and job profile, write Dale Bennett, Task Force Search Committee, Southern Conference, Rt. 7, Box 1003, Greensboro, NC 27407.

UCC Offers Marriage Encounter

Marriage Encounter, a world-wide movement aimed at enriching marriages through increased communication, now offers a United Church of Christ expression.

Available in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Missouri, Maine, Illinois, New Hampshire, Nebraska, Ohio, Pennsylvania and California, the United Church expression of Marriage Encounter is open to persons of all faiths.

For those who are not familiar with the movement, Marriage Encounter is open to persons of all faiths and offers a 44-hour crash course in marriage communication. Not a group-oriented experience, Marriage Encounter seeks to enrich and deepen marital relationships through a technique of dialogue taught to and practiced privately by participants.

Cost for Marriage Encounter includes costs for accommodation, a \$15 registration fee and a free will offering.

Marriage Encounter is available for interested persons in the area of the Southeast Conference through Roman Catholic, Episcopal, Baptist and Methodist expressions. For more detailed information, please contact John and Audrey Schaeffer, Route 2, Box 167, Belvidere, TN 37306, phone (615) 967-0180.



Students at Talladega College

Talladega Receives Support

Without your aid, the students grouped around the spiral staircase at Talladega College, Talladega, AL, might never have been able to go to college.

Through the Higher Education Program of the UCC Commission for Racial Justice, these students have received grant money to study at Talladega. Visions of working in the medical professions have now become real possibilities for these students, all of whom are majoring in biology.

Talladega College, which is located in the Southeast Conference, is one of the historic colleges founded in the South in the nineteenth century by the American Missionary Association, which is now related to our United Church Board for Homeland Ministries.

Through your past and present support, the United Church continues to enable those with ability to receive the education whose benefit is felt not only by the church, but by the community as well.

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